

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Methods and apparatus are disclosed which provide a system for accurate time and usage based metering of client application or client application feature usage and the reporting of said usage to a site on a public network. The present invention can be used as an alternative to traditional license granting systems, or be used for any other purpose where tracking and metering of valuable resources or services is useful. While the current invention can provide metering and billing capability to software applications akin to the billing systems deployed by telecommunication companies for line and feature usage, the metering can also emulate traditional licensing models and operate in conjunction with traditional licensing systems.